

# PEOPLE and THINGS: By ATTICUS

ALL was proceeding normally at last Thursday's meeting of the National Parks Commission, when my colleague Harold Abrahams was called from the table by a whispered "Moscow on the line, sir."

The call was from a leading

Russian sports paper. Could they have Mr. Abrahams's views on the Olympic Games?

At ten roubles a minute, for twenty-five minutes, Mr. Abrahams courteously complied. Finally the Russian reporter came to the vital "And what did you think of

the performance of Soviet athletes?"

"We all admired Kuts of course," said Mr. Abrahams. "I think that some of the others might have done better if they hadn't trained quite so seriously."

"Thank you," said Moscow hastily. "And now, if you will

excuse me, I must get on to Miss Thelma Hopkins."

## General Electrician

G.E.C.'s contract to build the largest atomic power station in the world is mainly due to the efforts of one man. Arnold Lindley, G.E.C.'s

Director of Heavy Engineering, has for four years insisted that G.E.C. should "go bald-headed for nuclear power." The company has spent over £500,000 on research.

Lindley, a quiet-spoken man of 56, was appointed to Fraser and Chalmers, a subsidiary of G.E.C., as a mechanical engineer at the age of seventeen. After a long spell in South Africa, he returned as general manager of Fraser and Chalmers in 1952.

The £35 million contract which, G.E.C. tells me, Lindley personally secured, is the largest ever placed with a British concern. The station, with a capacity of 380,000 kw., is to be at Hunterston, on the Ayrshire coast. Work will start as soon as compensation has been paid to several angry farmers who grow potatoes on the site, and should be finished by 1961.

## Tasteful Gifts

GRACIOUS gifts advertised in the American Press include: Mink toothbrushes... Elvis Presley bracelet, with picture of Elvis, guitar, hound and shattered heart... Musical Madonna: "Genuine Graffetto Chapel reverently hand-made by the artist, Graffetto." Gracious patina of age skilfully applied. When opened, sacred music is intoned... Bald head hairbrush "soft-as-a-kitten's" paws... Contour shaper. Waterproof, foam-filled bath pillow with suction cups... Turn Over Darling. Store to p p e a battery-operated buzzer for the snore's pillow... Bonotone Hearing Aids: "Please Santa give my Daddy a Sonolone so he can hear me say Merry Christmas."

## Ski-Heil!

SKIERS, or those about to ski, may be interested in the following accident statistics put together by "Sports Illustrated."

Seventy-five per cent. of all injuries happen to people who have never taken a lesson.

The most dangerous time is between two and four, when you are tired, the snow is freezing and there is a low sun angle.

Forty-four per cent. of all injuries are sprains, twenty-nine per cent. fractures and nine per cent. lacerations.

The accident-prone parts of the body are: ankles forty per cent., knees twenty per cent., legs fifteen per cent., all others twenty per cent.

On a more cheerful note, statistics show that any one skier will average 143 outings before he gets hurt.

## Stop Press

RENO, Nevada. Mr. Arthur Ellen, a hypnotist, has sent a telegram to President Eisenhower suggesting that he "lead the nation" by putting his turkey in a trance before chopping off its head.

Mr. Ellen advised the President that hypnotism "is easily done by first talking to him (the bird) softly, laying his head quietly on the ground where you stretch a piece of white string."

"His eyes focus on the string, thereby allaying his fears and virtually putting him to sleep. The bird is not frightened at the time of the execution, tastes better due to the absence of adrenalin in the bloodstream and plucks easier because the muscles holding the feathers are relaxed."

## People and Words

"The ideal man is healthy and fit and has a well-trained mind. The book-worm and the gladiator are only half-trained men, leading only half a life."

"The Treasury ought not to treat the taxpayer like a battery hen. He sweated and squirmed until he has laid the approximate quota of taxable eggs and then have his neck wrung."

—Lord Lucas of Chilworth.

"We have won ten Olympic gold medals instead of three. There'd been one for tossing the hammer and sickle."

—Heard in Budapest.

"Rock 'n' roll is only old soul warmed up."

—Mr. Louis Armstrong.

"Why don't you stick your head (and your old bones along with it) into a bucket of water three times and only take it out twice?"

—Letter to No!—to the American "Skin" paper.

## ATTICUS looks back at—



## Our First Christmas, 1922

EACH week on Page One THE SUNDAY TIMES reminds me that it was established in the year 1922. What I wondered, did our first Christmas issue have to say? George IV was King of England, Napoleon had died the year before. James Munroe was President of the United States, Robert Southey was Poet Laureate and Sir James Lawrence President of the Royal Academy. Franklin was exploring the Antarctic and that year hansom cabs were introduced into London.

I turned back the files to December 22, 1922, and found no comment on these people and things.

Instead:

WINES AND SPIRITS.  
F. ABRAHAM, and Co., 11, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4, importers of the following wines and spirits:—  
Chateau d'Yquem, 1855, 1870, 1895, 1905, 1910, 1915, 1920, 1925, 1930, 1935, 1940, 1945, 1950, 1955, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015, 2020, 2025, 2030, 2035, 2040, 2045, 2050, 2055, 2060, 2065, 2070, 2075, 2080, 2085, 2090, 2095, 2100, 2105, 2110, 2115, 2120, 2125, 2130, 2135, 2140, 2145, 2150, 2155, 2160, 2165, 2170, 2175, 2180, 2185, 2190, 2195, 2200, 2205, 2210, 2215, 2220, 2225, 2230, 2235, 2240, 2245, 2250, 2255, 2260, 2265, 2270, 2275, 2280, 2285, 2290, 2295, 2300, 2305, 2310, 2315, 2320, 2325, 2330, 2335, 2340, 2345, 2350, 2355, 2360, 2365, 2370, 2375, 2380, 2385, 2390, 2395, 2400, 2405, 2410, 2415, 2420, 2425, 2430, 2435, 2440, 2445, 2450, 2455, 2460, 2465, 2470, 2475, 2480, 2485, 2490, 2495, 2500, 2505, 2510, 2515, 2520, 2525, 2530, 2535, 2540, 2545, 2550, 2555, 2560, 2565, 2570, 2575, 2580, 2585, 2590, 2595, 2600, 2605, 2610, 2615, 2620, 2625, 2630, 2635, 2640, 2645, 2650, 2655, 2660, 2665, 2670, 2675, 2680, 2685, 2690, 2695, 2700, 2705, 2710, 2715, 2720, 2725, 2730, 2735, 2740, 2745, 2750, 2755, 2760, 2765, 2770, 2775, 2780, 2785, 2790, 2795, 2800, 2805, 2810, 2815, 2820, 2825, 2830, 2835, 2840, 2845, 2850, 2855, 2860, 2865, 2870, 2875, 2880, 2885, 2890, 2895, 2900, 2905, 2910, 2915, 2920, 2925, 2930, 2935, 2940, 2945, 2950, 2955, 2960, 2965, 2970, 2975, 2980, 2985, 2990, 2995, 3000, 3005, 3010, 3015, 3020, 3025, 3030, 3035, 3040, 3045, 3050, 3055, 3060, 3065, 3070, 3075, 3080, 3085, 3090, 3095, 3100, 3105, 3110, 3115, 3120, 3125, 3130, 3135, 3140, 3145, 3150, 3155, 3160, 3165, 3170, 3175, 3180, 3185, 3190, 3195, 3200, 3205, 3210, 3215, 3220, 3225, 3230, 3235, 3240, 3245, 3250, 3255, 3260, 3265, 3270, 3275, 3280, 3285, 3290, 3295, 3300, 3305, 3310, 3315, 3320, 3325, 3330, 3335, 3340, 3345, 3350, 3355, 3360, 3365, 3370, 3375, 3380, 3385, 3390, 3395, 3400, 3405, 3410, 3415, 3420, 3425, 3430, 3435, 3440, 3445, 3450, 3455, 3460, 3465, 3470, 3475, 3480, 3485, 3490, 3495, 3500, 3505, 3510, 3515, 3520, 3525, 3530, 3535, 3540, 3545, 3550, 3555, 3560, 3565, 3570, 3575, 3580, 3585, 3590, 3595, 3600, 3605, 3610, 3615, 3620, 3625, 3630, 3635, 3640, 3645, 3650, 3655, 3660, 3665, 3670, 3675, 3680, 3685, 3690, 3695, 3700, 3705, 3710, 3715, 3720, 3725, 3730, 3735, 3740, 3745, 3750, 3755, 3760, 3765, 3770, 3775, 3780, 3785, 3790, 3795, 3800, 3805, 3810, 3815, 3820, 3825, 3830, 3835, 3840, 3845, 3850, 3855, 3860, 3865, 3870, 3875, 3880, 3885, 3890, 3895, 3900, 3905, 3910, 3915, 3920, 3925, 3930, 3935, 3940, 3945, 3950, 3955, 3960, 3965, 3970, 3975, 3980, 3985, 3990, 3995, 4000, 4005, 4010, 4015, 4020, 4025, 4030, 4035, 4040, 4045, 4050, 4055, 4060, 4065, 4070, 4075, 4080, 4085, 4090, 4095, 4100, 4105, 4110, 4115, 4120, 4125, 4130, 4135, 4140, 4145, 4150, 4155, 4160, 4165, 4170, 4175, 4180, 4185, 4190, 4195, 4200, 4205, 4210, 4215, 4220, 4225, 4230, 4235, 4240, 4245, 4250, 4255, 4260, 4265, 4270, 4275, 4280, 4285, 4290, 4295, 4300, 4305, 4310, 4315, 4320, 4325, 4330, 4335, 4340, 4345, 4350, 4355, 4360, 4365, 4370, 4375, 4380, 4385, 4390, 4395, 4400, 4405, 4410, 4415, 4420, 4425, 4430, 4435, 4440, 4445, 4450, 4455, 4460, 4465, 4470, 4475, 4480, 4485, 4490, 4495, 4500, 4505, 4510, 4515, 4520, 4525, 4530, 4535, 4540, 4545, 4550, 4555, 4560, 4565, 4570, 4575, 4580, 4585, 4590, 4595, 4600, 4605, 4610, 4615, 4620, 4625, 4630, 4635, 4640, 4645, 4650, 4655, 4660, 4665, 4670, 4675, 4680, 4685, 4690, 4695, 4700, 4705, 4710, 4715, 4720, 4725, 4730, 4735, 4740, 4745, 4750, 4755, 4760, 4765, 4770, 4775, 4780, 4785, 4790, 4795, 4800, 4805, 4810, 4815, 4820, 4825, 4830, 4835, 4840, 4845, 4850, 4855, 4860, 4865, 4870, 4875, 4880, 4885, 4890, 4895, 4900, 4905, 4910, 4915, 4920, 4925, 4930, 4935, 4940, 4945, 4950, 4955, 4960, 4965, 4970, 4975, 4980, 4985, 4990, 4995, 5000, 5005, 5010, 5015, 5020, 5025, 5030, 5035, 5040, 5045, 5050, 5055, 5060, 5065, 5070, 5075, 5080, 5085, 5090, 5095, 5100, 5105, 5110, 5115, 5120, 5125, 5130, 5135, 5140, 5145, 5150, 5155, 5160, 5165, 5170, 5175, 5180, 5185, 5190, 5195, 5200, 5205, 5210, 5215, 5220, 5225, 5230, 5235, 5240, 5245, 5250, 5255, 5260, 5265, 5270, 5275, 5280, 5285, 5290, 5295, 5300, 5305, 5310, 5315, 5320, 5325, 5330, 5335, 5340, 5345, 5350, 5355, 5360, 5365, 5370, 5375, 5380, 5385, 5390, 5395, 5400, 5405, 5410, 5415, 5420, 5425, 5430, 5435, 5440, 5445, 5450, 5455, 5460, 5465, 5470, 5475, 5480, 5485, 5490, 5495, 5500, 5505, 5510, 5515, 5520, 5525, 5530, 5535, 5540, 5545, 5550, 5555, 5560, 5565, 5570, 5575, 5580, 5585, 5590, 5595, 5600, 5605, 5610, 5615, 5620, 5625, 5630, 5635, 5640, 5645, 5650, 5655, 5660, 5665, 5670, 5675, 5680, 5685, 5690, 5695, 5700, 5705, 5710, 5715, 5720, 5725, 5730, 5735, 5740, 5745, 5750, 5755, 5760, 5765, 5770, 5775, 5780, 5785, 5790, 5795, 5800, 5805, 5810, 5815, 5820, 5825, 5830, 5835, 5840, 5845, 5850, 5855, 5860, 5865, 5870, 5875, 5880, 5885, 5890, 5895, 5900, 5905, 5910, 5915, 5920, 5925, 5930, 5935, 5940, 5945, 5950, 5955, 5960, 5965, 5970, 5975, 5980, 5985, 5990, 5995, 6000, 6005, 6010, 6015, 6020, 6025, 6030, 6035, 6040, 6045, 6050, 6055, 6060, 6065, 6070, 6075, 6080, 6085, 6090, 6095, 6100, 6105, 6110, 6115, 6120, 6125, 6130, 6135, 6140, 6145, 6150, 6155, 6160, 6165, 6170, 6175, 6180, 6185, 6190, 6195, 6200, 6205, 6210, 6215, 6220, 6225, 6230, 6235, 6240, 6245, 6250, 6255, 6260, 6265, 6270, 6275, 6280, 6285, 6290, 6295, 6300, 6305, 6310, 6315, 6320, 6325, 6330, 6335, 6340, 6345, 6350, 6355, 6360, 6365, 6370, 6375, 6380, 6385, 6390, 6395, 6400, 6405, 6410, 6415, 6420, 6425, 6430, 6435, 6440, 6445, 6450, 6455, 6460, 6465, 6470, 6475, 6480, 6485, 6490, 6495, 6500, 6505, 6510, 6515, 6520, 6525, 6530, 6535, 6540, 6545, 6550, 6555, 6560, 6565, 6570, 6575, 6580, 6585, 6590, 6595, 6600, 6605, 6610, 6615, 6620, 6625, 6630, 6635, 6640, 6645, 6650, 6655, 6660, 6665, 6670, 6675, 6680, 6685, 6690, 6695, 6700, 6705, 6710, 6715, 6720, 6725, 6730, 6735, 6740, 6745, 6750, 6755, 6760, 6765, 6770, 6775, 6780, 6785, 6790, 6795, 6800, 6805, 6810, 6815, 6820, 6825, 6830, 6835, 6840, 6845, 6850, 6855, 6860, 6865, 6870, 6875, 6880, 6885, 6890, 6895, 6900, 6905, 6910, 6915, 6920, 6925, 6930, 6935, 6940, 6945, 6950, 6955, 6960, 6965, 6970, 6975, 6980, 6985, 6990, 6995, 7000, 7005, 7010, 7015, 7020, 7025, 7030, 7035, 7040, 7045, 7050, 7055, 7060, 7065, 7070, 7075, 7080, 7085, 7090, 7095, 7100, 7105, 7110, 7115, 7120, 7125, 7130, 7135, 7140, 7145, 7150, 7155, 7160, 7165, 7170, 7175, 7180, 7185, 7190, 7195, 7200, 7205, 7210, 7215, 7220, 7225, 7230, 7235, 7240, 7245, 7250, 7255, 7260, 7265, 7270, 7275, 7280, 7285, 7290, 7295, 7300, 7305, 7310, 7315, 7320, 7325, 7330, 7335, 7340, 7345, 7350, 7355, 7360, 7365, 7370, 7375, 7380, 7385, 7390, 7395, 7400, 7405, 7410, 7415, 7420, 7425, 7430, 7435, 7440, 7445, 7450, 7455, 7460, 7465, 7470, 7475, 7480, 7485, 7490, 7495, 7500, 7505, 7510, 7515, 7520, 7525, 7530, 7535, 7540, 7545, 7550, 7555, 7560, 7565, 7570, 7575, 7580, 7585, 7590, 7595, 7600, 7605, 7610, 7615, 7620, 7625, 7630, 7635, 7640, 7645, 7650, 7655, 7660, 7665, 7670, 7675, 7680, 7685, 7690, 7695, 7700, 7705, 7710, 7715, 7720, 7725, 7730, 7735, 7740, 7745, 7750, 7755, 7760, 7765, 7770, 7775, 7780, 7785, 7790, 7795, 7800, 7805, 7810, 7815, 7820, 7825, 7830, 7835, 7840, 7845, 7850, 7855, 7860, 7865, 7870, 7875, 7880, 7885, 7890, 7895, 7900, 7905, 7910, 7915, 7920, 7925, 7930, 7935, 7940, 7945, 7950, 7955, 7960, 7965, 7970, 7975, 7980, 7985, 7990, 7995, 8000, 8005, 8010, 8015, 8020, 8025, 8030, 8035, 8040, 8045, 8050, 8055, 8060, 8065, 8070, 8075, 8080, 8085, 8090, 8095, 8100, 8105, 8110, 8115, 8120, 8125, 8130, 8135, 8140, 8145, 8150, 8155, 8160, 8165, 8170, 8175, 8180, 8185, 8190, 8195, 8200, 8205, 8210, 8215, 8220, 8225, 8230, 8235, 8240, 8245, 8250, 8255, 8260, 8265, 8270, 8275, 8280, 8285, 8290, 8295, 8300, 8305, 8310, 8315, 8320, 8325, 8330, 8335, 8340, 8345, 8350, 8355, 8360, 8365, 8370, 8375, 8380, 8385, 8390, 8395, 8400, 8405, 8410, 8415, 8420, 8425, 8430, 8435, 8440, 8445, 8450, 8455, 8460, 8465, 8470, 8475, 8480, 8485, 8490, 8495, 8500, 8505, 8510, 8515, 8520, 8525, 8530, 8535, 8540, 8545, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8575, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 8600, 8605, 8610, 8615, 8620, 8625, 8630, 8635, 8640, 8645, 8650, 8655, 8660, 8665, 8670, 8675, 8680, 8685, 8690, 8695, 8700, 8705, 8710, 8715, 8720, 8725, 8730, 8735, 8740, 8745, 8750, 8755, 8760, 8765, 8770, 8775, 8780, 8785, 8790, 8795, 8800, 8805, 8810, 8815, 8820, 8825, 8830, 8835, 8840, 8845, 8850, 8855, 8860, 8865, 8870, 8875, 8880, 8885, 8890, 8895, 8900, 8905, 8910, 8915, 8920, 8925, 8930, 8935, 8940, 8945, 8950, 8955, 8960, 8965, 8970, 8975, 8980, 8985, 8990, 8995, 9000, 9005, 9010, 9015, 9020, 9025, 9030, 9035, 9040, 9045, 9050, 9055, 9060, 9065, 9070, 9075, 9080, 9085, 9090, 9095, 9100, 9105, 9110, 9115, 9120, 9125, 9130, 9135, 9140, 9145, 9150, 9155, 9160, 9165, 9170, 9175, 9180, 9185, 9190, 9195, 9200, 9205, 9210, 9215, 9220, 9225, 9230, 9235, 9240, 9245, 9250, 9255, 9260, 9265, 9270, 9275, 9280, 9285, 9290, 9295, 9300, 9305, 9310, 9315, 9320, 9325, 9330, 9335, 9340, 9345, 9350, 9355, 9360, 9365, 9370, 9375, 9380, 9385, 9390, 9395, 9400, 9405, 9410, 9415, 9420, 9425, 9430, 9435, 9440, 9445, 9450, 9455, 9460, 9465, 9470, 9475, 9480, 9485, 9490, 9495, 9500, 9505, 9510, 9515, 9520, 9525, 9530, 9535, 9540, 9545, 9550, 9555, 9560, 9565, 9570, 9575, 9580, 9585, 9590, 9595, 9600, 9605, 9610, 9615, 9620, 9625, 9630, 9635, 9640, 9645, 9650, 9655, 9660, 9665, 9670, 9675, 9680, 9685, 9690, 9695, 9700, 9705, 9710, 9715, 9720, 9725, 9730, 9735, 9740, 9745, 9750, 9755, 9760, 9765, 9770, 9775, 9780, 9785, 9790, 9795, 9800, 9805, 9810, 9815, 9820, 9825, 9830, 9835, 9840, 9845, 9850, 9855, 9860, 9865, 9870, 9875, 9880, 9885, 9890, 9895, 9900, 9905, 9910, 9915, 9920, 9925, 9930, 9935,